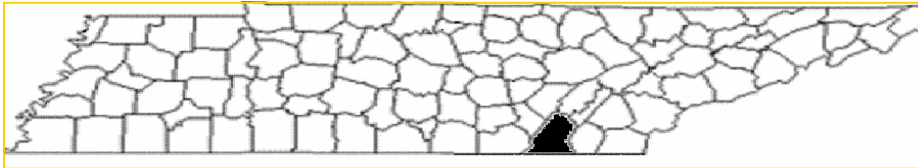


The Status of Women in Hamilton County



STATUS OF WOMEN IN HAMILTON COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

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INDICATOR	DATA	COUNTY RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	39.00	23
Women's Annual Earnings	\$24,505	10
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	69.2%	73
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	46.5%	10
Female Unemployment Rate	5.9%	44
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	26.3%	58
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	38.88	27
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	23.8%	37
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	29.0%	2
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	82.0%	4
Female High School Dropout Rate	13.0%	83
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	93.0%	33
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	13.2%	18
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	11.1%	76
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	35.2	58

Report Overview: This publication on the Status of Women in Hamilton County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

HAMILTON

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

Employment and Earnings

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation, female unemployment, and percentages of women in professional or managerial occupations.

- ◇ Women in Hamilton County have annual median earnings of \$24,505 placing Hamilton tenth among counties. However, women still earn \$11,000 less annually than their male counterparts.
- ◇ Hamilton County ranks in the top ten counties in the rate of women's participation in the labor force, and women account for 47.2% of the county labor force.
- ◇ The female unemployment rate in Hamilton County (5.9%) is slightly higher than the overall county rate of 5.5%.
- ◇ Among all working individuals in Hamilton County, 33.5% work in managerial or professional occupations, but among women, that number decreases significantly to 26.3%.

Economic Autonomy

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ◇ 82.0% of women in Hamilton County have a high school diploma, a percentage higher than that for all county residents (80.7%). Hamilton ranks fourth among counties in this indicator.
- ◇ 29.0% of women in the county have a four-year college degree or better, while only 23.9% of all residents have at least a bachelor's degree. A higher percentage of women than men hold bachelor's degrees.
- ◇ Despite the high rates of county women with high school and college degrees, the female high school dropout rate is 13.0%. Hamilton ranks 83rd among counties in this indicator.
- ◇ 13.2% of women living in Hamilton County earn below poverty level incomes.
- ◇ Though 9.2% of all families in the county are in poverty, 28.0% of all families with a female householder and no husband present are living in poverty.
- ◇ The sales and receipts from women-owned businesses in Hamilton County only account for 4.8% of the total sales and receipts of all privately-owned firms.
- ◇ Women account for 52.2% of the county population and for 53.3% of eligible county voters. Six out of twenty elected county positions are held by women.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

HAMILTON

		Hamilton County	Rank of Hamil- ton County	Highest Ranking County
Earnings	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$24,505	10	Williamson: \$32,243
	Wage Gap	69.2%	73	Davidson: 82.1%

Employment	Female Labor Force Participa- tion Rate	46.5%	10	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	5.9%	44	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Fe- males in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations	26.3%	58	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	23.8%	37	Moore: 63.3%

Education	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	29.0%	2	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equiva- lency)	82.0%	4	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	13.0%	83	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%

Lifestyles	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Cover- age	93.0%	33	Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	13.2%	18	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	11.1%	76	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	35.2	58	Williamson: 1.2%

ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Hamilton County

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Earnings and Employment	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Economic Autonomy	
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties